

Message Text

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ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 EB-11 TAR-02 SP-03 AID-20 NSC-07

RSC-01 CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-20 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02

CIAE-00 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 LAB-06

SIL-01 AGR-20 L-03 INT-08 DRC-01 /158 W

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FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4279

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD NI

SUBJECT: PREPARATION FOR MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS:

NONTARIFF BARRIERS

REF: A. STATE A-3164, APRIL 10, 1974

B. LAGOS A-87, MAY 6, 1974

C. LAGOS A-84, MAY 2, 1974

D. LAGOS 1133

FOLLOWING IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS POSED REFA.:

1. THERE ARE NO NIGERIAN GOVT EXPORT PROMOTION PROGRAMS
WHICH COULD BE INTERPRETED AS NTB'S.

2. FMG PROCUREMENT IS HANDLED ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY THROUGH
THE FEDERAL TENDERS BOARD, WHILE THE STATES PROCURE THROUGH
THEIR RESPECTIVE STATE TENDERS BOARDS. THE METHOD OF OPERATION
OF THESE BOARDS DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A BARRIER TO US TRADE.

3. THERE ARE NO TRADING AGENCIES OR GOVERNMENT MONOPOLIES
OPERATING IN A MANNER SO AS TO DISCRIMINATE AGAINST US GOODS.

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4. THE BASIS OF VALUATION OF IMPORTS FOR PURPOSES OF

ASSESSING IMPORT DUTIES IS THE PRICE SPECIFIED IN A CONTRACT OF SALE NEGOTIATED IN FULLY OPEN MARKET CONDITIONS, ADJUSTED AS NECESSARY TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF COST, ADDITIONAL FREIGHT CHARGES, INSURANCE AND BUYING COMMISSION.

5. THERE ARE NO CONSULAR CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS.

6. NONE.

7. WHILE CUSTOMS CLEARING CAN BE A TEDIOUS AND TIME-CONSUMING PROCESS, THIS IS SO BECAUSE THINGS SIMPLY MOVE SLOWLY IN THIS COUNTRY, NOT BECAUSE THE GOVERNMENT WISHES TO RESTRAIN LEGITIMATE TRADE.

8. NO KNOWN INSTANCES.

9-10. NEITHER STANDARDS NOR MARKING, LABELING AND PACKAGING REQUIREMENTS ACT AS DETERRENTS TO TRADE.

11. LICENSES ARE REQUIRED FOR ONLY A SMALL NUMBER OF ITEMS, PRIMARILY TO PROTECT LOCAL INDUSTRY. (SEE REF C.)

12. NO KNOWN QUOTAS.

13. IMPORTATION OF CERTAIN TYPES OF GOODS ARE ABSOLUTELY PROHIBITED. ASIDE FROM SUCH OBVIOUS CATEGORIES AS OBSCENE LITERATURE, COUNTERFEIT COINS, FOOD UNFIT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION, THE MOST IMPORTANT ITEMS ARE CIGARETTES, LIVE POULTRY, VEGETABLES, EGGS AND CORNED BEEF. THERE IS AN OBSOLETE PROHIBITION ON THE IMPORTATION OF ALL GOODS FROM SOUTH AFRICA, RHODESIA AND NAMIBIA. EXPORT OF FERROUS SCRAP AND PEANUTS CURRENTLY EMBARGOED.

14. THERE ARE NO SCREEN TIME QUOTAS OF MIXING REGULATIONS AFFECTING THE IMPORTATION OF AMERICAN MOVIES.

15. EXCHANGE CONTROL IS NOT ADMINISTERED SO AS TO DIRECT TRADE TO CERTAIN SOURCES OF SUPPLY, OR TO CERTAIN COMMODITIES.

16. THERE ARE NO BILATERAL TRADE AGREEMENTS THAT SIGNIFICANTLY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IMPAIR TRADE WITH THIRD COUNTRIES.

17. IN 1973 A BAN WAS IMPOSED TEMPORARILY ON THE IMPORTATION OF STOCK FISH, BECAUSE OF WHAT THE FMG FELT WERE UNJUSTIFIED PRICE RISES. THE BAN HAS BEEN LIFTED WITH REGARD TO ICELAND, WHICH NATION IS NO, PRESUMABLY, THE ONLY SOURCE OF SUPPLY OF STOCK FISH TO NIGERIA.

18. THERE ARE NO TARIFF QUOTAS.

19. "LOCAL CONTACT" CRITERIA DO NOT DETERMINE IMPORTS.

20. PRIOR IMPORT DEPOSITS ARE NOT REQUIRED.

21. A RECONSTRUCTION SURCHARGE OF 5 PER CENT WAS FORMERLY LEVIED
ON CERTAIN CATEGORIES OF IMPORTS BUT IT WAS ABOLISHED
APRIL 1, 1974.

22. THERE IS NO SYSTEM OF VARIABLE LEVIES ON IMPORTS.
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